**Handbook Changes:**

Page 5: The International Applicant

The International Admissions Office, located in 340 N. Campus Drive, Gearhart Hall 213, evaluates the credentials for all international graduate applicants. All applicants regardless of citizenship, whose first language is not English, must meet the University’s English Language Proficiency requirement as detailed in the Graduate Catalog by submitting a minimum score on an approved standardized test of English Language Proficiency. Graduate students who earned a bachelor’s or master’s degrees from U.S. institutions or from foreign institutions where the official and native language is English are exempt from this requirement.

Departments or Programs may petition the Academic Appeals Committee of the Graduate Council for a waiver of the English Language Proficiency requirement for an individual applicant for admissions/enrollment on a case-by-case basis. Departments/Programs must present evidence of English Language Proficiency with justification which may include but is not limited to competitive standardized verbal/writing test scores, graduate enrollment of at least two academic years at an institution in the United States or in a country where English is the native language, previous professional employment in the United States, and/or extended residency in the United States. The decision of the Academic Appeals Committee shall be final.

Please note that this waiver process does not waive the English Language Proficiency requirement that an individual must meet to hold a graduate assistantship involving teaching.

More information can be found on the International Admissions website: iao.uark.edu.